

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A burial system for interring remains ~~within the ground,~~
comprising:

a cover;

a tub adjacent to the cover and configured to receive ~~having~~ a removable lid, the tub
being adapted to be ~~at least partially buried such that the lid~~ at least proximate to the
ground ~~a surface of the ground;~~

a ballast control positioned within the tub and in fluid communication with the
groundwater within the ground and operable to alter a fluid volume within the tub
resulting from the infiltration of the groundwater into the tub;

at least one pod located inside the tub, the at least one pod having a removable top and
having an interior region ~~configured to hold at least one container;~~ and

at least one container located within the interior region for holding the remains.

~~a door member adapted to be removably placed over the lid proximate the surface of the~~
~~ground~~

2. (currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one pod is~~
~~substantially cylindrical-shaped~~ cover is comprised of at least one of natural stone and concrete.

3. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the container is configured to receive at least one of cremation remains, relics, and memorial materials.

4. (currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the cover includes a plurality of sides and further ~~door member~~ includes at least one of a regular pentagon member, an irregular pentagon member, a regular hexagon member, an irregular hexagon a polygonal shape wherein member, a square member, a rectangular member, a triangular member, an oval member, and a ~~circle member~~ alignment of the cover's sides with the corresponding sides of other similarly shaped covers permits the formation of a cover arrangement having at least one of a linear, curved, circular, and serpentine array.

5. (currently amended) The system of Claim 4, wherein the cover ~~irregular hexagon~~ comprises four major sides of approximately equal length and two minor sides of approximately equal length, the minor sides being about half the length of the major side, and wherein the four major sides includes

a first major side and a second major side, the first major side and the second major side defining a first included angle of approximately 105 degrees;

a third major side and a fourth major side, the third major side defining a second included angle of approximately 112 degrees with the first major side, and the fourth major side defining a third included angle of approximately 112 degrees with the second major side; and wherein the two minor sides include

a fifth minor side and a sixth minor side, the fifth minor side defining a fourth included angle of approximately 112 degrees with the third major side, and the sixth minor side defining a sixth

included angle of approximately 112 degrees with the fourth major side, and the fifth minor side defining a seventh included angle of approximately 165 degrees with the sixth minor side.

6. (currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the tub ~~is adapted to receive a plurality of pods~~ further includes a stabilizer to secure the at least one pod within the tub.

7. (currently amended) The system of Claim 6, wherein the stabilizer ~~each pod being adapted to receive a plurality of containers~~ includes markings to assist locating the at least one pod within the tub.

8. (original) The system of Claim 6, wherein each pod comprises an elongated, substantially cylindrically-shaped interior region.

9. (currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the ~~tub~~ ballast control includes an inlet aperture ~~aperature~~ disposed therethrough, further comprising a conduit positioned within an interior region of the tub and fluidly communicating with the inlet aperture, the conduit having at least one exit aperture disposed therethrough in fluid communication with the interior region of the tub.

10. (currently amended) The system of Claim 1, further comprising a bracing device coupled to the tub with at least one bolt and to the lid with at least one mounting screw.

11. (original) The system of Claim 10, wherein the bracing device includes a first member coupled to the tub and a second member coupled to the lid, the first and second members being hingeably coupled such that the lid may be hingeably removed from the tub.

12. (original) The system of Claim 10, wherein the bracing device is asymmetrically coupled to the tub.

13. (currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the cover ~~door member~~ includes an attachment member adapted to facilitate removal of the cover ~~door member~~ from the lid.
14. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the door member includes a receptacle adapted to receive a vase.
15. (original) A columbarium pod burial system, comprising:
- a tub with a removable lid;
 - a pod located inside the tub, the pod having a removable top and configured to hold at least one container;
 - a water ballast located inside the tub; and
 - a stone having a memorial plaque,
- whereby the tub is buried overlaid by the removable lid and stone and kept to a stable position by the water ballast under a variety of groundwater conditions.
16. (original) The system of Claim 15, wherein the pod is substantially cylindrical shaped.
17. (original) The system of Claim 15, wherein the container is configured to receive cremation remains, relics, and memorial materials.
18. (original) The system of Claim 15, wherein the stone has a plurality of polygon shapes including a regular pentagon, an irregular pentagon, a regular hexagon, an irregular hexagon, a square, a rectangle, and a triangle.
19. (original) The system of Claim 18, wherein the irregular hexagon comprises four major sides of approximately equal length and two minor sides of approximately equal length, the minor sides being about half the length of the major side, and further described as

a first major side and a second major side, the first side and the second side having an angle of approximately 105 degrees;

a third major side and a fourth major side, the third side having an angle of approximately 112 degrees with the first side, and the fourth side having an angle of approximately 112 degrees with the second side; and

a fifth minor side and a sixth minor side, the fifth side having an angle of approximately 112 degrees with the third side, and the sixth side having an angle of approximately 112 degrees with the fourth side, and the fifth side having an angle of approximately 165 degrees with the sixth side.

20. (original) The system of Claim 15, wherein the water ballast includes a pipe substantially parallel with the pod and attached with the bottom of the tub, the pipe having a hole placed along the length of the pipe at a distance from the bottom of the tub, whereby accumulating ground is retained in the tub at a height approximately equivalent to the distance from the bottom of the tub.

21. (currently amended) A columbarium pod burial system, comprising:

a tub having an removable lid;

at least one pod positionable within the tub, the at least one pod having a removable top;

a first plurality of containers configured to hold cremated remains that are positionable within the at least one pod;

a second plurality of containers configured to hold relics that are positionable within the at least one pod;

a water ballast located inside the tub and operable to prevent displacement of the tub
when the tub is exposed to groundwater;

~~a plurality of pods, the pods being having a removable top;~~

a container mapping system operable to determine a container location; and

~~a lid removably placed over the tub; and~~

a stone removably placed over the lid, the stone having a plurality of memorial plaques
and a mapping locator;

~~and a mapping locator,~~

~~whereby the water ballast system keeps the tub from being displaced from groundwater
and the container location is determined by the container mapping system that registers
the mapping locator.~~

22. (currently amended) The system of Claim 21, wherein the at least one pod ~~plurality of pods~~ includes a plurality of seven tubes, each tube configured to hold the first and second plurality of containers.
23. (currently amended) The system of Claim 21, wherein the ~~pod registration~~ container mapping system includes a tub reference mark located on the inside of the tub and a pod stabilizer, the pod stabilizer having an indicator, whereby placement of the pod stabilizer aligns the indicator with the reference mark and registers the location of the pods with the tub.
24. (original) The system of Claim 21, wherein the stone has a plurality of polygon shapes including a regular pentagon, an irregular pentagon, a regular hexagon, an irregular hexagon, a square, a rectangle, and a triangle.

25. (currently amended) The system of Claim 24 ~~21~~, wherein the irregular hexagon comprises four major sides of approximately equal length and two minor sides of approximately equal length, the minor sides being about half the length of the major side, and further described as
- a first major side and a second major side, the first side and the second side having an angle of approximately 105 degrees;
- a third major side and a fourth major side, the third side having an angle of approximately 112 degrees with the first side, and the fourth side having an angle of approximately 112 degrees with the second side; and
- a fifth minor side and a sixth minor side, the fifth side having an angle of approximately 112 degrees with the third side, and the sixth side having an angle of approximately 112 degrees with the fourth side, and the fifth side having an angle of approximately 165 degrees with the sixth side.
26. (original) The system of Claim 21, wherein the stone is attached with the tub to prevent the slippage of the stone on hilly terrains.
27. (original) The system of Claim 21, wherein the container mapping locator includes a landmark numerical array and a property description numerical array.
28. (original) The system of Claim 27, wherein the landmark numerical array includes a landmark descriptor, a stone number, a pod number, a container depth number, and a pod capacity number.

29. (original) The system of Claim 28, wherein the landmark numerical array includes a landmark descriptor, a stone number, a pod number, a container depth number, and a pod capacity number.
30. (original) The system of Claim 27, wherein the property description numerical array includes a geographic descriptor, a stone number, a pod number, a container depth number, and a pod capacity number.
31. (original) The system of Claim 30 wherein the geographic descriptor includes a geographic coordinate of a meets-and-bounds legal description and a geographic coordinate obtained from global positioning measurements.
32. (withdrawn) A method of burial, comprising:
placing a decedent's remains within a container;
removeably securing the container within an elongated pod member, the pod member being adapted to receive a plurality of containers; and
removeably securing the pod member within an interior of a storage member, the storage member being sealable and being at least partially disposed within a burial medium.
33. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 32, wherein removeably securing the container within an elongated pod member includes removeably securing the container within an approximately cylindrical pod member.
34. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 32, wherein removeably securing the pod member within an interior of a storage member includes slideably securing the pod member into a receptacle disposed within the storage member.

35. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 32, further comprising prior to placing the decedent's remains within a container, cremating the decedent.
36. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 32, further comprising providing a conduit disposed within the storage member, the conduit being in fluid communication with the interior of the storage member and with the surrounding burial medium, and being adapted to permit a fluid medium to move between the interior and surrounding burial medium.
37. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 32, further comprising providing a conduit disposed within the storage member, the conduit being in fluid communication with the interior of the storage member and with the surrounding burial medium, and being adapted to permit a fluid medium to move between the interior and surrounding burial medium.
38. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 32, further comprising further comprising removeably securing a door member over the storage member.
39. (currently amended) A columbarium pod burial system, comprising:
- a tub with a removable lid;
 - a pod located inside the tub, the pod having a removable top and configured to hold at least one container;
 - a water ballast located inside the tub;
 - a cover having a stone-like appearance; and
 - a frame holding the cover,

whereby the tub is buried overlaid by the removable lid and overlaid by the cover, the cover being kept to a stable position by the frame.

40. (currently amended) The system of Claim 39, wherein the cover is made to have the stone~~-like~~ appearance with a mold configured to impart the stone~~-like~~ appearance onto the surface of the cover.
41. (original) The system of Claim 39, wherein the frame is a polygon having a plurality of shapes, each side of the polygon having orifices to receive bolts to connect to other frames.
42. (original) The system of Claim 41, wherein the polygon includes a triangle, a square, a diamond, a pentagon, and a hexagon.
43. (original) The system of Claim 41, wherein the frames are connected into a plurality of arrays, the arrays including a straight chain of frames, a staggered chain of frames, a curved chain of frames, a circular array of frames, and a stepped chain of frames.
44. (original) The system of Claim 43, wherein each frame holds the cover.
45. (original) The system of Claim 44, wherein the cover includes a plurality of sizes.